

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A method for collecting acrylic acid comprising the step of collecting acrylic acid using an aqueous medium from a reaction gas comprising acrylic acid obtained by catalytic vapor-phase oxidation of propane, propylene, and/or acrolein, wherein:

the following formula (1) is satisfied if A represents a weight fraction of acrylic acid to all condensable ingredients in the reaction gas before collecting acrylic acid and B represents a weight fraction of acrylic acid in bottoms of a collection device used in the step of collecting.

$$(B / A) < 1.25 \quad (1)$$

2. (Original) The method for collecting acrylic acid as described in claim 1, wherein the aqueous medium is an aqueous solution that comprises 90 wt% or more of water.

3. (Currently amended) The method for collecting acrylic acid as described in claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the collection device used in the step of collecting is a column-type collection device comprising a collection column.

4. (Currently amended) The method for collecting acrylic acid as described in ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the collection is performed while a temperature of a top of the collection column of the column-type collection device is kept within a predetermined range.

5. (New) The method for collecting acrylic acid as described in claim 2, wherein the collection device used in the step of collecting is a column-type collection device comprising a collection column.

6. (New) The method for collecting acrylic acid as described in claim 2, wherein the collection is performed while a temperature of a top of the collection column of the column-type collection device is kept within a predetermined range.

7. (New) The method for collecting acrylic acid as described in claim 3, wherein the collection is performed while a temperature of a top of the collection column of the column-type collection device is kept within a predetermined range.

8. (New) The method for collecting acrylic acid as described in claim 5, wherein the collection is performed while a temperature of a top of the collection column of the column-type collection device is kept within a predetermined range.